

FW: Sheriffs Branch SITREP (ROUTINE) UPDATE #3 - Jan. 31, 2022 - SHP District 6 - Coutts Border Blockade and Protest

From: Bob Andrews <bob.andrews@gov.ab.ca>
To: Farooq Sheikh <farooq.sheikh@gov.ab.ca>
Cc: "Dana Belyk (Dana.Belyk@gov.ab.ca)" <dana.belyk@gov.ab.ca>
Date: Mon, 31 Jan 2022 11:05:43 -0700

Sir,

Updated SITREP below.

Bob

Classification: Protected A

From: Rick Gardner <Rick.Gardner@gov.ab.ca>
Sent: Monday, January 31, 2022 10:52 AM
To: Bob Andrews <Bob.Andrews@gov.ab.ca>
Subject: FW: Sheriffs Branch SITREP (ROUTINE) UPDATE #3 - Jan. 31, 2022 - SHP District 6 - Coutts Border Blockade and Protest

Bob,
An updated Sitrep below.
Rick

Classification: Protected A

From: Jason Delaney <Jason.Delaney@gov.ab.ca>
Sent: Monday, January 31, 2022 10:47 AM
To: Rick Gardner <Rick.Gardner@gov.ab.ca>
Cc: Marion Cenaiko <Marion.Cenaiko@gov.ab.ca>; Nathan Kardish <Nathan.Kardish@gov.ab.ca>
Subject: Sheriffs Branch SITREP (ROUTINE) UPDATE #3 - Jan. 31, 2022 - SHP District 6 - Coutts Border Blockade and Protest

UPDATE #3

DATE/TIME: January 31, 2022 @ 1036hrs.

LOCATION: Coutts Border Crossing/Coutts Vehicle Inspection Station (VIS), Coutts, Alberta

ISSUE: "Lockdown Coutts Border" blockade and COVID19-related mandate protest.

BACKGROUND:

- Approximately 2,000 vehicles are amassing near the Coutts border protesting pandemic-related vaccine mandates and government restriction
- Members of the Sheriff Highway Patrol (SHP) have been reassigned to Coutts to assist RCMP, CP Police Service and Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) with public safety and traffic related concerns on the highway and at the Coutts VIS.
- Initial reports indicated protesters were cooperative and peaceful while also allowing traffic to flow freely through the area.

CURRENT STATUS:

- SHP members earlier assisted in the search and recovery of a 4 year-old child that wandered away from his family and became lost. The child was found safe and returned to his family.
- Sheriffs have assisted RCMP as some of their members have experienced swarming incidents with protesters.
- SHP members have assisted RCMP in diffusing several altercations between protesters and members of the motoring public as tensions are heightening between the two groups.
- RCMP Air Services has been deployed to assist with efforts. They have since cleared the area.
- Volker Stevin are on site and Hwy 4 has been closed due to a large number of abandoned vehicles on the highway in both directions. There is no capacity to remove all the abandoned commercial vehicles at this time.
- Some demonstrators have left the area for the evening, abandoning their commercial vehicles as they are effectively blocked in and unable to move.
- RCMP have deployed the Special Tactical Operations (STO) unit to the area and are operating out of the Coutts VIS. A large number of

RCMP members are now on site.

- RCMP have deployed a full Emergency Response Team (ERT) to the Coutts area.
- Intel reports indicate members of the protester community have armed themselves with firearms and have produced them to law-abiding motorists in threatening manners.
- Reports on social media of planned "swarmings" on police officers are surfacing. Plans of "luring" and "trapping" officers in large groups.
- SHP resources have been deployed to the Carway and Del Bonita crossings to assist RCMP with large convoys.

STRATEGIC CONSIDERATIONS:

- Inspector Delaney has deployed additional resources to the area to assist the current deployment.
- Additional SHP resources from the area have been reassigned to assist for the next 5 days (or until the situation resolves).

STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS:

- N/A

ATTACHMENTS:

- N/A

PREPARED BY:

- Inspector Jason Delaney, SHP District #6

APPROVED BY:

- Superintendent Rick Gardner, SHP South Region

Inspector Jason Delaney
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Alberta



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